MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite!
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All out for May Day!

Students defend pro-Palestine encampments

Chapters of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) jointly organized a demonstration in New York City on April 24 on the one-year anniversary of university encampments in the U.S. in support of Palestine.

Protesters rallied at Washington Square Park and then marched to New York University (NYU), Cooper Union and The New School demanding that the universities halt their support of Israel and the repression of students speaking out in support of Palestinians. They issued a list of demands:

1. Divest from genocide.
2. Deny Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), New York Police Department (NYPD) and the Israel Occupation Forces (IOF) access to students.
3. Protect international students.
4. Resist state repression of Palestine.
5. Abolish trustee dictatorships.

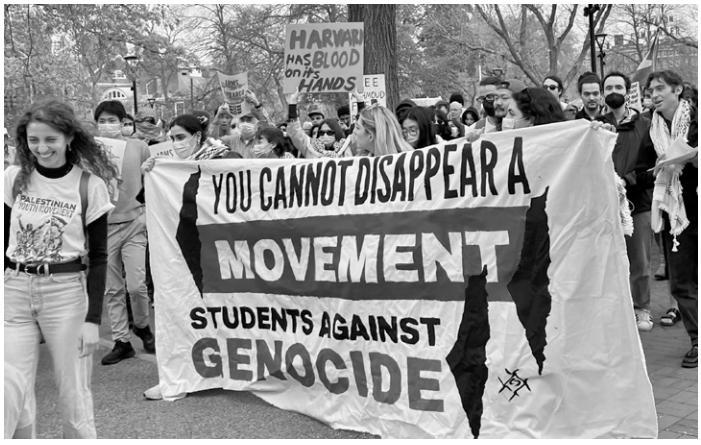
Led by the Cooper Union SJP, The New School SJP and NYU SJP, the action also focused on the fight to stop the Trump administration's ongoing arrests, particularly the revocation of visas and arrests of international students and the universities' attacks on pro-Palestinian groups by imposing rules to prevent protests.

Sara Flounders of Workers World Party told the rally to hold on to the demand to divest from genocide, explaining: "It exposes them as enablers. It exposes their role as collaborators. Don't let it go. Protect the international students and the migrants being rounded up."

Flounders linked the U.S. government's support of Israel and kidnapping of student resisters to its bombing in Gaza, Lebanon, Yemen and Syria and threats against Iran. The crowd cheered and clapped in response, chanting, "U.S. imperialism, number one terrorist!"

— Story by Brenda Ryan

New York City, April 24, 2025. WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN



Day of Global Action in Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 25, 2025. **See page 3.**

WW PHOTO: MAUREEN SKEHAN

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Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQIA2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, class solidarity, and joining us in the fight for a socialist future, please sign up at **www.workers.org/join-form** and an organizer will get back to you. Or contact a WWP branch near you. □

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Day of Global Action in Cambridge: ‘End Harvard’s complicity in genocide!’

By Will Hodgkinson
Boston

WW PHOTO: MAUREEN SKEHAN

Day of Global Action in Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 25, 2025.

PHOTO: FRANK S. ZHOU, HARVARD CRIMSON

Harvard Undergraduate Palestine, Solidarity Committee occupies Harvard Yard with an encampment for Palestine, April 24, 2024.

Hundreds of determined students, workers and community members rallied on April 25 at Cambridge Common in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to demand an end to Harvard University’s complicity in the ongoing U.S.-backed Zionist genocide in Palestine. Organizations in the coalition that called this Day of Global Action include the Palestinian Youth Movement (PYM), the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement (BDS), the Party for Socialism and Liberation and the Dissent Collective.

Saleh, a PYM organizer said, “While Gaza has been turned to dust by U.S.-funded bombs, while Israel walks away from ceasefire negotiations and escalates its genocidal war, Harvard remains silent.” (tinyurl.com/54mzbpv3)

Although liberal commentators have lauded Harvard for its supposed “courage” in opposing the Trump administration threats, the university’s administration helped prepare the way for the racist crackdown terrorizing international students and immigrant workers. As speakers emphasized, effective anti-fascist resistance in the core of the U.S. empire means supporting the liberation of Palestine from the U.S.-supported Zionist regime by any means necessary. The violence of Zionist settlers, one speaker stressed, shows the future of the U.S. as the ultra right gains momentum under Trump. (workers.org/2025/04/85196)

With cheers, chants and speakers’ fiery remarks, the demonstrators repeatedly drowned out efforts by four Zionist counterprotesters to disrupt the event with a sound-system that blared low-quality music and rehashed Israeli propaganda about the war. As organizers pointed out, these pitiful efforts only showed the Zionists’ desperation as the global movement for Palestinian liberation continues to gain support and momentum in spite of coordinated ruling-class efforts to suppress it.

From Cambridge Common, demonstrators marched to the gates of the Harvard campus. Defying campus cops, activists climbed the gates to hang posters while the crowd cheered. The posters read: “Gaza asked, we replied. Cut Ties to Israel’s Genocide!” and “Harvard, You Can’t Be Zionist and Anti-Fascist.” Protesters unfurled a banner that listed the names and ages of Palestinian men, women, and children martyred in Gaza.

Undaunted by squads of police and the Zionist counter protesters, the demonstrators took over Harvard Square. Chants of “Free, free, Palestine!” “Long live the Intifada!” and “From the river to the sea” electrified the crowd. Many activists waved Palestinian flags.

The march ended outside the Kennedy School of Government, whose connections to national security agencies, Zionist organizations and weapons and tech firms make it a hub of bourgeois power. (tinyurl.com/2e54rchy) Kennedy School faculty prepare a new generation of the ruling class to administer the U.S empire — including, above all, its Zionist satellite Israel.

Infamous war criminals affiliated with the Kennedy School include Henry Kissinger, Hillary Clinton, Madeleine Albright and most recently Jake Sullivan, who as National Security Advisor under Biden oversaw that administration’s genocidal policies in Gaza.

Victory against Israeli-based arms maker

To tumultuous cheers, a BDS organizer announced that the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has ended its partnership with Israeli-based weapons maker Elbit Systems. MIT’s concession marks the latest victory for the years-long street campaign to drive Elbit out of Cambridge — and, ultimately, out of the high-tech murder business.

Closing the action, speakers promised to intensify their struggle against the fascist repression protesters are confronting in the streets and to broaden their struggle for the ultimate liberation of Palestine and all other colonized nations worldwide. □

MUNDO OBRERO
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WORKERS WORLD editorial

U.S. still owes Vietnam reparations

U.S. imperialism suffered its second historical defeat on April 30, 1975, at the hands of the Vietnamese people when U.S. troops fled in helicopters from the rooftops of buildings in U.S.- occupied Saigon. One year following the overthrow of the South Vietnam U.S.-puppet regime, South and North Vietnam were reunited. Saigon was renamed Ho Chi Minh City in honor of the great communist president of North Vietnam — and Hanoi became the capital of the united country.

This 25-year, undeclared U.S. war was initiated by President Harry Truman when he authorized a Military Assistance Advisory Group to assist the French military which invaded Vietnam for a second time in late 1946 and reestablished colonial rule.

The Vietnamese guerrilla army kicked the French colonizers out of the north in 1954 after a decisive battle at Dien Bien Phu. Washington sent advisers to the South's puppet regime, and from 1964 to 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson expanded the war, sending in over a half-million troops at one time.

From 1962 to 1975, an estimated three million Vietnamese, out of a population of over 46 million people, died in the genocidal war, along with over 58,000 U.S. troops. Washington expanded the war in part to counter the growing strength of the Chinese Revolution.

Along with the tremendous loss of life by U.S. troops carrying out massacres of civilians as well as the Vietnamese fighters, Vietnam was also a victim of ecocide. It has been well-documented that over four million tons of bombs were dropped on the mostly rural areas of South Vietnam by the U.S. Air Force.

Many unexploded bombs still threaten the lives and limbs of the population today. Additionally, 400,000 tons of napalm were used to not only maim the civilian population, but to also poison the soil, the water and the air.

U.S. forces used Agent Orange, a deadly herbicide, to destroy vegetation and defoliate forests in an effort to expose Vietnamese liberation fighters. The herbicide contains the toxic chemical dioxin linked to cancer and birth defects. Even today, three million Vietnamese people, including children, are dealing with severe, debilitating health problems attributed to this deadly poison. The use of these inhumane weapons not only constituted U.S. war crimes against the Vietnamese people, but harmed unprepared GIs.

North Vietnamese tank breaks down South Vietnamese presidential palace gate on April 30, 1975.

A bittersweet commemoration

As the entire unified country of over 100 million people prepares for the 50th anniversary of "The Liberation of the South and National Reunification Day" on April 30 in Ho Chi Minh City, the Trump administration has strongly discouraged U.S. diplomats — including Marc Knapper, the U.S. ambassador to Vietnam — from attending this historic event.

That Vietnam prevailed against the U.S. superpower in this genocidal war and is still thriving is an embarrassing reminder of the defeat suffered by the most powerful military in the world at the hands of a determined, united people's army led by the National Liberation Front in occupied South Vietnam and the North Vietnamese Army.

No arrogant diplomatic maneuver by Washington can erase the historic importance of this victory. Nor can Trump's declaration of a huge tariff of over 40% on goods produced in Vietnam. Nor will the world forget that after signing a peace treaty that promised reparations for the irreparable lingering harm caused by the U.S. government and its military, the U.S. reneged.

Not only does the U.S. continue to deny billions of dollars in reparations, but it had the unmitigated gall to demand that Vietnam pay the U.S. $140 million in war debts borrowed by the puppet regime of South Vietnam in exchange for normalizing trade relations. This is similar to the French government's audacious demand in the 19th century that Haiti pay reparations for the French enslavers' loss of their profits following the victory on Jan. 1, 1804, of the first independent Black Republic in the Western hemisphere.

Vietnam's victory in 1975 and its advances since continue to inspire workers and oppressed peoples everywhere — including the liberation struggle in occupied Palestine.

This inspired the great internationalist, communist revolutionary Che Guevara to declare, "Two, Three or Many Vietnams," when referring to world revolution.

U.S. reparations to Vietnam now! ☐

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editorial

Solidaridad política, unidad de clase: ¿Cuál es la conexión?

Desde que la administración de Donald Trump/Elon Musk tomó las riendas del poder a finales de enero, ha declarado una guerra de clases contra el activismo en los campus universitarios, los estudiantes extranjeros, las personas trans, los migrantes, los trabajadores federales y otros.

Puede que sea un tipo de guerra diferente del genocidio en curso que el imperialismo estadounidense y su socio sionista y colono-colonial Israel han estado llevando a cabo contra el pueblo palestino. Sin embargo, sigue siendo una guerra de clases. Y eso hace que la solidaridad de clase sea aún más importante.

Este reino del terror no comenzó con la actual administración. Pero ciertamente se ha acelerado desde que la anterior administración del «genocida Joe» demonizó los campamentos estudiantiles pro-Gaza y pro-Palestina que se extendieron por todo el país, acusándolos falsamente de ser «antisemitas».

Antes de las elecciones de 2024, los estudiantes se enfrentaron a una tremenda represión por parte de las administraciones de los campus, desde la Universidad de Columbia hasta la Universidad de California en Los Ángeles. Se produjo una brutal represión policial y pro sionista que cerró muchos campamentos. Los estudiantes también se enfrentaron a la expulsión o a ser doxxed por expresar su solidaridad con el pueblo de Gaza y por exigir que Estados Unidos deje de armar a Israel.

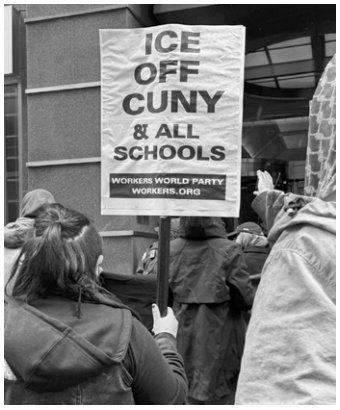
Entre ellos se encuentran la becaria Fulbright de doctorado de la Universidad de Tufts Rümeysa Öztürk y el recién licenciado de Columbia Mahmoud Khalil, que se enfrentan a una deportación ilegal por parte del Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas de Estados Unidos (ICE), similar a la Gestapo.

No es de extrañar que, durante las protestas, muchos estudiantes se cubran el rostro o eviten hacer públicos sus verdaderos nombres debido a la fuerte vigilancia de la policía y otros organismos represivos.

No sólo los estudiantes activistas pro Palestina se enfrentan a la deportación por sus creencias políticas, sino que los estudiantes extranjeros en general se enfrentan a la revocación de sus visados, seguida de la deportación. El Departamento de Estado estadounidense ha revocado el visado a más de 600 estudiantes internacionales, algunos sólo por haber sido acusados de delitos menores. (The Guardian, 10 de abril)

Un perjuicio para uno es un perjuicio para todos

Trump también ha declarado una caza de brujas contra los migrantes, independientemente de su situación legal. Los migrantes pueden ser y han sido retirados físicamente de sus trabajos y escuelas por el ICE. Muchos de ellos han sido deportados sin el debido proceso a centros de detención del ICE, a la prisión estadounidense de Guantánamo y a una cárcel de máxima seguridad en El Salvador.



MO FOTO: TONI ARENSTEIN

Llamamiento a la unidad entre universitarios y migrantes en Nueva York, 11 de abril de 2025.

Los trabajadores migrantes -vitales para muchas arterias de la economía, especialmente la industria alimentaria- han sido vil y falsamente etiquetados como «criminales y violadores» por el xenófobo, misógino y supremacista blanco Trump.

Cuando Trump señala a cualquier sector de la clase trabajadora, como los activistas estudiantiles y los inmigrantes, toda su administración busca tanto aislar a esos sectores como debilitar la solidaridad de clase, una solidaridad que se necesita desesperadamente. Es una advertencia flagrante de que ningún sector de la clase trabajadora está a salvo en términos de tener o mantener ningún derecho democrático básico. Para repetirlo, se trata de una guerra mundial, ya sea política, económica o militar, que se extiende mucho más allá de las «fronteras» de Estados Unidos.

Basta con preguntar en el extranjero a los pueblos de Palestina, Yemen, Líbano, China, Irán, Groenlandia, Panamá y Sudáfrica. Basta con preguntar en Estados Unidos a los trabajadores federales, a los inmigrantes, a los estudiantes y a las comunidades trans y discapacitadas.

Construir el internacionalismo o la solidaridad internacional es clave para hacer retroceder las tácticas de divide y vencerás de la administración Trump, y no confiar en el impotente Partido Demócrata con su objetivo de embaucar a la población estadounidense para que vuelva a votarles en la Casa Blanca en 2028.

Los enemigos de la clase obrera mundial, también en Estados Unidos, no son sólo Trump y Musk como individuos, sino la dictadura de clase capitalista dirigida por los plutócratas multimillonarios, cuyos intereses representan ellos y otros políticos de derechas. La clase obrera y sus organizaciones deben extender la solidaridad política más allá de esos individuos bajo ataque inmediato, sino también en general hacia la clase obrera superexplotada que produce toda la riqueza en la sociedad capitalista.

Mundo Obrero es totalmente solidario con cualquier esfuerzo que se haga para construir una amplia unidad política. Un buen ejemplo es el llamamiento del grupo pro palestino Within Our Lifetime de Nueva York para el próximo Día de los Prisioneros Palestinos el 17 de abril.

Dice en parte: «Cuando decimos 'Liberen a Mahmoud, Libérenlos a todos', no nos referimos sólo a todos los estudiantes detenidos por el ICE. Nos referimos a todos y cada uno de los prisioneros palestinos desde Estados Unidos hasta Palestina, desde Mahmoud [Khalil] hasta Shukri Abu Baker y Ghassan Elashi de Tierra Santa 5 hasta el Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, hasta los 10.000 palestinos en las prisiones de la ocupación». ❐

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